



Signature message

by Dean Gavrilovic

Welcome back for 2016, it's great to see that the year has started with the same intensity as the end of last year.

At SPM, we're excited about the prospects for 2016 and in the coming issues of Collaboration we'll be sharing some of our projects with you. We're also looking forward to catching up with you soon and hopefully working together to help you achieve some of your exciting goals for 2016.

Building Trends - MicroLiving

Micro-living is the concept of getting more out of less. Less space, less clutter and less expense. Overall, it is not a new concept, just watch a few episodes of Grand Designs to see how necessity has made Europeans think more strategically about flexible living without sacrificing comfort, but the Australian housing landscape has until recently been of the mindset that more is better. The Australian Dream of a large house on a large block of land is fast becoming unrealistic, not to mention expensive and labour intensive to maintain.



The primary concepts behind micro-living are the efficient use of available space, focusing on communal spaces and reclaiming outside space; that is, creating a seamless flow from inside to out to better utilise outside space for your daily living needs. Giving the Australian climate you could be forgiven for thinking this is a "No Brainer" but it is commonly overlooked when people build. Your house and garden are not

This year the newsletter will concentrate on new and exciting projects at home and overseas and look at trends in technology and techniques for the construction industry that are changing the way we design and manage projects for the future. Our industry is robust and ever-changing and we want to share our knowledge and experience with you. Here's to an exciting year ahead. *Dean*

separate entities. Spending more time outside and more time together is also generally considered healthier living.

The rise of the Ikea phenomenon and the impact of Asia on our spacial awareness has shown us that in some cultures they can fit an entire house in the space of a Western kitchen living area. While this is not desirable to most

and not an absolute necessity in our urban areas ... yet... these examples can inspire re-evaluating how we maximise our available

space and make it multifunctional. It also has to have the flexibility to change as our circumstances evolve.

From a design perspective, micro-living is also about making smaller spaces appear larger and increasing our feeling of comfort.

Micro-living will be one of the latest trends to feature at Australia's biggest building and renovating expo The Melbourne Home Show in April.



Thought of the month ...

"Never continue in a job you don't enjoy. If you're happy in what you're doing, you'll like yourself, you'll have inner peace. And if you have that, along with physical health, you will have more success than you could possibly have imagined."

- Johnny Carson



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Latest News

Global Growth Hotspot

CNN Money wrote late last year in their crystal-balling for 2016 that new forecasts for the global economy, including those from OECD and IMF, broadly agree that growth will be between 2.8-3.3% of GDP (estimates for 2015 were 2.5-2.8%). They say that China decrease, the US stay about the same, and Europe will increase slightly. Nevertheless, China's economy is the world's second largest so its

performance is pivotal for global performance.

It seems India and other emerging markets will be the superstars. For example, Property developer IndoSpace, owned by India's Everstone Capital and US-based Realterm Global, said it will invest US\$1 billion in India over the next five years to expand its real estate development projects.

IndoSpace, which has so far spent US\$750 million to develop industrial parks in the country, expects the fresh investment to increase its development pipeline to 50 million square feet from 20 million square feet currently.

The company expects to use the funds to develop industrial parks and facilities for logistics and manufacturing companies, IndoSpace said in a statement.